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Rural District Council of Highworth

THE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the Year 1947



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BOROUGH PRESS, EASTCOTT HILL, SWINDON



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Highworth Rural District Council

Public Health Officers of the Authority:

Medical Officer of Health —

R. P. BEATTY, M.D., D.P.H. (CAMB.)

A part-time officer who acts only for this Rural District.

Senior Sanitary Inspector —

A. G. UNDERWOOD, CERT. S.I.B., M.S.I.A.

MEAT AND FOOD CERT. CERT. NAT. INST. BUILDERS.

Additional Sanitary Inspector —

H. F. O'CONNOR, CERT. S.I.B., M.S.I.A.

MEAT AND FOOD CERT.

Unqualified Assistant to Sanitary Inspector and Rodent Operator —

D. L. WALKER.

Shorthand-typist —

MISS J. O. BUTT.

Changes in Staff.

There were no changes in the staff during the year.

Offices.

The offices of the Public Health Department are apart from, but near to the Rural District Council Offices, and are situated at 27 Bath Road, Swindon. The main offices and the Public Health offices are connected by telephone.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Highworth Rural District Council

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

In presenting the Annual Report for the year 1947, on the health conditions of the Highworth Rural District, I have much pleasure in pointing out that there has been no serious epidemic and that for the second year in succession we have had no cases of Diphtheria which shows the great advantage of immunization against this disease.

Once again I have to thank the members of the Council for their consideration, and the Sanitary Inspector and staff for their able co-operation.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

R. P. BEATTY.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area of the District (acres)	.....	.....	.....	48,691
Number of Parishes	.....	.....	.....	15
Estimated resident population	.....	.....	.....	19,990
Number of inhabited houses (approximately)	.....	.....	.....	5,158
Rateable Value	.....	.....	.....	£104,394
Sum represented by a penny rate	.....	.....	.....	£420
Number of new houses erected in 1947	.....	.....	.....	45
By private enterprise	.....	.....	.....	13
By Local Authority	.....	.....	.....	32
Number of Domestic Dwellings connected to main water supply	.....	.....	.....	74

Physical Features and General Character of the District.

The Rural District of Highworth comprises an area of 48,691 acres, and was composed very largely of pasture land devoted to the rearing of cattle and the production of dairy produce. Due to the ploughing up of grassland during the war years, and since the end of hostilities much of the pasture land is now under cultivation, but without reduction in cattle rearing and the production of milk.

The tributaries of the Upper Thames, the rivers Cole and Ray, are the principal streams which water the district. The downland found in the Eastern and Southern Boundaries of the District consist of hard and soft chalk overlying the upper greensand formation.

The District may truly be considered as Urban and Rural in character, the former comprise the Parishes adjoining the town of Swindon which have developed due to employment in the town, but it is as a Rural District that it may be considered prosperous, the land being of good quality and fertile. Many small industries have been opened up in several Parishes and the development is on sound lines. The population is no longer stationary and tends to increase year by year. The District is healthy and possesses natural advantages.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

(a) Laboratory Facilities.

The Chemical and Bacteriological examination of water samples are carried out by the Pathological Department of the Salisbury General Infirmary.

Chemical specimens and other Bacteriological works are carried out by the Ministry of Health Laboratory attached to the Swindon Isolation Hospital. Wasserman tests are carried out by the Pathological Department to the Salisbury General Infirmary. Milk samples from Retail Purveyors are also dealt with by this Department.

(b) Hospital and Ambulance Facilities.

The Ambulance of the Swindon and District Isolation Hospital is used for the transport of cases of infectious disease. A retention fee of £25 per annum is paid for the use of the ambulance.

All cases of infectious disease can be admitted to the Swindon and District Isolation Hospital, Gorse Hill, Swindon.

Notifiable Diseases in the Highworth Rural District Area.

Acute Polyomyelitis.	Malaria.
Acute Polio Encephalitis.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.
Cholera.	Pneumonia (All Forms)
Cerebro Spinal Fever.	Puerperal Pyrexia.
Continued Fever.	Relapsing Fever.
Diphtheria.	Small-Pox.
Dysentery.	Scarlet Fever.
Enteric Fever.	Tuberculosis (All Forms).
Erysipelas.	Typhus Fever.
Encephalitis Lethargica.	Typhoid Fever.
Measles.	Whooping Cough.

Scabies and Contagious Diseases.

Arrangements for the treatment of cases of Scabies in the area at the Corporation Cleansing Centre, Swindon, continue satisfactorily. During the year 14 persons received treatment, the figure shows a reduction on previous years.

Fumigation of Bedding and Clothing.

Bedding and similar articles are treated by steam at the steam disinfection station attached to the Swindon and District Isolation Hospital, Gorse Hill, Swindon. No charge is made for fumigation carried out for cases of Infectious Diseases, but a charge of £1 1s. 0d. is made for fumigation of bedding, etc., when carried out by request where no infectious disease is notified.

Incidence of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria.

During the year no cases of Diphtheria were notified shewing once again the splendid results of Diphtheria Immunisation in the Country. This is the second year that no cases of Diphtheria have been reported. Only one case of Scarlet Fever was removed to Hospital for treatment, the cases reported were of mild form and quickly recovered.

Cancer — Treatment.

Surgical Treatment is given at the Swindon Victoria Hospital, and the British Railway Medical Fund Society's Hospital in Swindon, and at St. Margaret's Hospital, Stratton St. Margaret.

Extract from Vital Statistics.

Live Births		Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	.....	261	143	118
Illegitimate	.....	7	5	2
TOTAL		268	148	120
Still-Births		Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	.....	1	1	—
Illegitimate	.....	—	—	—
TOTAL		1	1	—
		Total	Male	Female
Deaths	.....	165	83	82
		Age Groups		Number
Deaths from Cancer	.....	25-35		0
		35-45		3
		45-55		3
		55-65		10
		65 and upwards		16
TOTAL				32

Tuberculosis — New Cases and Mortality During 1947.

Age Group	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
5	3	1	1	3	..	..	..	..
15	5	4	1	..	..	..	..	..
25	3	4	..	..	..	..	..	..
35	3	1	1	..	..	1	..	..
45	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
55	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
65	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..
Upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
TOTALS:	15	10	3	3	2	1	..	..

Prevalence of and control over, Infectious and other Diseases.

The distribution and incidence of the notifiable infectious diseases is indicated in the following tabular statements. It is satisfactory to note the reduction in the cases of Scarlet Fever and the complete absence of Diphtheria. The number of cases occurring during the past five years are given for comparison.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Scarlet Fever</i>	<i>Diphtheria</i>
1942	22	3
1943	41	4
1944	10	12
1945	10	4
1946	12	Nil.
Year under review.		
1947	11	Nil.

Distribution in Parishes.

Parish	Diphtheria	Scarlet Fever	Puerperal Pyrexia	Cerebro Spinal Fever	Pneumonia	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Dysentery	Measles	Whooping Cough	Erysipelas	Acute Poliomyelitis	Totals
Bishopstone	1	..	..	..	..	..	9	10	..	..	9
Blunsdon	27	..	..	..	38
Castle Eaton	22	..	..	..	22
Chiseldon	1	1	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	2
Hannington	2	..	1	..	4
Haydon Wick	3	..	..	5	1	..	2	..	..	..	4
Highworth	116	..	..	..	124
Inglesham	4	..	..	..	4
Liddington
South Marston	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Stanton Fitzwarren	1	..	..	..
Stratton St. Margaret	4	1	..	6	..	..	25	5	6	1	48
Wanborough	1	..	..	4	3	..	..	4
Wroughton	3	..	..	..	7
TOTALS	11	2	..	12	1	..	216	19	7	1	269

Analysis under Age Groups.

Disease	Under 1 year	1-5 years	5-15 years	15-25 years	25-45 years	45-65 years	65 and upwards	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths	Total all ages
Diphtheria	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::	::
Scarlet Fever	::	3	5	::	2	1	::	2	::	11
Puerperal Pyrexia	::	:	:	1	1	:	:	:	:	2
Cerebro Spinal Fever	::	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	::
Pneumonia	1	:	:	:	3	7	1	:	:	12
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	1
Measles	6	105	96	5	2	2	:	:	:	216
Whooping Cough	2	11	6	:	:	:	:	:	:	19
Erysipelas	::	:	:	:	4	1	2	:	:	7
Acute Poliomyelitis	::	::	1	:	:	:	:	1	:	1
TOTALS	10	119	108	6	12	11	3	3	::	269

INFANT MORTALITY.

Nett deaths from stated causes at various ages under one year of age.

Causes of Death	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total under one year
Total all cases Certified and Uncertified	5	::	1	::	::	2	1	3	1	13
Measles	::	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Whooping Cough	::	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Diphtheria and Croup	::	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Influenza	::	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Tuberculosis Meningitis	::	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Tuberculosis Intestinal	::	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Other Tuberculosis	::	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Syphilis	::	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Meningitis (not T.B.)	::	:	:	:	:	:	:	1	:	1
Convulsions	::	:	:	:	:	:	:	1	:	1
Gastritis	::	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Diarrhoea	::	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Congenital Malform	2	:	1	:	:	:	:	1	:	4
Neoplasm	::	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Debility	::	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Icterus	1	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	1
Premature Birth	::	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Injury at Birth	::	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Marasmus	::	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Asphyxia	2	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	1	3
Infant Enteritis	::	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Bronchial Pneumonia	::	:	:	:	:	2	1	:	:	3

REPORT OF THE SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR

To the Chairman and Members of the Council.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my third Annual Report of the work carried out by the Public Health Department of the Council during the year 1947.

The tables and particulars in the Report are in conformity with the Ministry of Health regulations and requirements.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking the Chairman of the Public Health and Housing Committee and also the Chairman and members of the Council for their great help and co-operation so willingly given during the year, in all matters connected with the efficient working of the duties carried out by the Public Health Department.

I am also grateful to your Engineer and Surveyor for his assistance in the compilation of the information on water supplies, drainage and sewerage throughout the District, and in addition the helpfulness of the Clerk and his Department at all times.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

A. G. UNDERWOOD.

Sanitary Inspections of the Area.

Number and nature of inspection during 1947.

Number of complete housing inspections under the Rural Housing Survey	469
Number of Detailed Inspections made for housing complaints under the Rural Housing Survey	193
Number of inspections re drainage of property	59
" " " " dirty and verminous premises	26
" " " " Requisitioned properties	83
" " " " Council House applications	295
" " " " numbering of houses	8
" " Interviews with owners/agents and builders	196
" " inspections re application for building licences	309
" " " " suitability of domestic water supplies	158
" " " " sampling of water supplies	89
" " " " camps and squatters	395
" " " " food premises	29
" " " " Ice-cream production	27
" " " " tents, vans and sheds, etc.	115
" " " " keeping of animals	21
" " " " under the Factory Act, 1937	89
" " " " re offensive trades	8
" " " " Rats and Mice Destruction Act	316
" " " " of Bakehouses	11
" " " " of Knackers Yards	36
" " " " re ditches and streams	11
" " " " under Shop Acts	18
" " " " re Overcrowding	29
" " " " under Milk and Dairies Orders	319
" " inspections re Refuse Collection and Disposal	221
" " inspections under Petroleum Acts	27
" " inspections re Infectious Diseases, etc.	27
" " Miscellaneous unspecified visits	195
TOTAL	3779
Number of Petroleum Licences issued in 1947	50
" " Carbide Licences issued in 1947	4
" " Informal letters sent to owners, agents, etc	211
" " Preliminary Notices	28
" " Statutory Notices	4
" " Court Cases taken during year for enforcement	3
" " Statutory Notices outstanding at end of the year	0

Eradication of Vermin.

Very few cases of vermin infestation were dealt with during the year. The incidence of bug infestation is rare in the district, but cases of flea infestation are more common.

All cases dealt with were satisfactory and repeat treatment was unnecessary. D.D.T. Vapour was used for flea infestation, and was highly successful in all cases. Proprietary Insecticides with residual D.D.T. were used for bug and fly infestations. D.D.T. Powder is used for all other insect pests.

Factory Act, 1937.

Very little action has been found necessary during the year, and only minor contraventions were dealt with. The following is the list of Factories and Workplaces in the District.

Paper Baling	.....	.....	.....	1
Bakers and Confectioners	.....	.....	.....	15
Blacksmiths	.....	.....	.....	5
Brickmaking	.....	.....	.....	2
Wheelwrights	.....	.....	.....	3
Engineering, including garages	.....	.....	.....	29
Mat and Rug Making	.....	.....	.....	1
Sausage Making	.....	.....	.....	1
Joinery, Woodworking, Undertaking	.....	.....	.....	8
Rope Making	.....	.....	.....	1
Tailoring	.....	.....	.....	1
Poultryfood, Tallowmelting, and Metal				
Sorting	.....	.....	.....	1
Saw Milling	.....	.....	.....	2
Brewing, aerated water, etc.	.....	.....	.....	1
Boot Repair	.....	.....	.....	1
Upholstery	.....	.....	.....	1
				—
		TOTAL	.....	73
				—

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

The refuse collection for the area is carried out by a 7 cubic yard Scammell Articulated Lorry, and a 5 cubic yard Ford Refuse Lorry, with two regular drivers, a reserve driver, and two loaders and two tipmen. The tipping of refuse is carried out under the Bradford controlled method, at Stratton St. Margaret in a disused clay quarry, a large area of useful land is being recovered in addition to improving the appearance of this large quarry. In all the large Parishes, refuse is collected once per week, and in the smaller Parishes once per fortnight.

No special collections except in isolated cases are carried out for salvage, the vehicles being divided for this purpose.

The refuse collection during the year has been well maintained and came into control of the Public Health Department on the 1st April, 1947.

Due to the age of the Scammell Lorry it was found necessary to place an order for a new Dennis 10 cubic yard Lorry for early delivery, but this has not yet been delivered.

Salvage Collection and Disposal.

Since taking over the refuse collection, etc., every attempt to increase salvage collection has been made, and I am pleased to report a successful year, instead of a decrease in salvage, this has been increased and a bonus of 10% over £450 income, is being paid to the refuse men.

The following tables shew the amounts and values of salvage for the years 1946 - 1947.

1946					Value			1947						
Weight								Weight			Value			
T. C. Q.					£	s.	d.	T. C. Q.			£	s.	d.	
Paper	39	7	0	249	6	7	50	0	2	321	5	11
Rags	2	14	3	36	18	6	3	3	3	59	7	4
Sacking		2	0		5	0	1	5	0	8	13	0
Bones	1	7	3	7	12	8		10	3	2	18	7
Non-Ferrous Metals		3	4	4	6	9		2	2	6	16	6
Ferrous Metals		2	3	2	4	0	3	14	0	8	5	11
Bottles	1067	doz.		105	15	0	787	doz.		111	17	10
Jam jars	282	doz.		10	11	6	619	doz.		35	17	0
								Bonus						
								Increased			15 5 4			
								Paper						
TOTAL					417 1 0						570 7 5			

Outworkers.

Inspection of the home conditions of all outworkers was carried out in the year, and found to be satisfactory. There were ten outworkers notified to the office by other Authorities.

Shops Acts.

Inspection due to other duties more urgent were small, and little action was found necessary. There are 161 Shops in the District of all the usual classes.

Public Houses.

During the year inspection of all the Public Houses and Hotels was commenced and the results to-date are by no means satisfactory, in many cases there is no proper sanitary accommodation, and were very primitive in many cases; it was often found that only one lavatory existed for males, females, and the family of the proprietors. The washing-up facilities in many cases was a bowl or bucket under the bar without hot and cold water laid on. Much work has been and is being done to remedy these conditions and the improvements are very satisfactory and in the interests of Public Health. It is hoped by the Department that this work will be concluded in the next year, if the owners and agents for the Breweries continue to co-operate.

Housing Statistics. Rural Housing Survey Details for the Year.

1.	Approximate number of houses in the Area	5198
2.	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for schedule of defects, measured, survey sheets typed, and recorded in the Housing Survey Register.	1586
3.	Number of houses measured not in above and not yet inspected for schedule of defects	542

4. Categorisation of Houses Inspected.

Cat. 1.	Cat. 2.	Cat. 3.	Cat. 4.	Cat. 5.	TOTAL
721	209	308	85	263	1586

The complete comprehensive Housing Survey in the District was 50% completed during the year, with inspection details recorded in the Housing Register and sheets for each dwelling house shewing the results of inspection and the amenities. Although no immediate action can be taken on the unfit properties due to the acute housing shortage in the district, the information obtained is vitally necessary and of great value in assessing the future long term policy with regard to new houses required and slum clearance proposals in the future. In addition, the Survey gives a true record and picture of the Housing of the District without guesswork. The standards adopted for the houses and the categorisation above, is based on the County Standards and not in existing legislation which is far too low for modern purposes.

Action taken under the Housing Act, 1926 and Public Health Act, 1936.

1.	Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which notices were served requesting defects remedied	165
2.	Number of Dwelling Houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices	6

Proceedings under Section II, Housing Act, 1936.

1. Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	1
2. Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which undertakings were accepted by this Local Authority	—

Housing Overcrowding.

1. Number of Dwellings overcrowded at end of year	11
2. Number of inspections made re overcrowding	295

Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919.

The control methods recommended by the Ministry of Food are closely followed by the Rodent Operator under the supervision of the Senior Sanitary Inspector.

Block inspections are carried out at all complaints, which are dealt with promptly, and the work carried out during the year was efficient and successful.

The refuse Tip is dealt with on a two monthly rota and has been reduced from a major infestation to spasmodic infestations of minor character. Treatment of sewers was carried out in all cases during the year and no serious infestations were found.

Major infestation occurs at one large Knackers Yard in the area, but regular treatment is carried out, and the owners co-operate.

Water.

There are fourteen Parishes which constitute the Highworth Rural District, to simplify the description of the various sources and the Parishes supplied, details are given as follows:—

The Parishes of HIGHWORTH, BLUNSDON ST. ANDREW, INGLESHAM, and STANTON FITZWARREN are supplied with water by distribution mains fed from the mains of the Swindon Corporation at Blunsdon. The average daily consumption for these Parishes is approximately 80,000 gallons.

There are approximately 51 houses on the Ermin Street, Kingsdown Lane and Hyde Road in the Parish of Blunsdon which at the present time take their water supply from shallow wells. During the latter part of the year the majority of these wells were dried up. Analysis proved the water was unfit for domestic use; this was reported to the Council and instructions given for a scheme for a piped supply to be prepared for submission to the Ministry of Health for approval.

The village of BISHOPSTONE and the hamlet of LITTLE HINTON are supplied by arrangement with the Rural District from a private

water supply administered by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England.

The village of CASTLE EATON is supplied with water by the distribution mains fed from the mains of the Cricklade and Wootton Bassett Rural. The average daily consumption is approximately 2,500 gallons.

The Parish of CHISELDON, with the exception of the hamlet of BADBURY is supplied with water by distribution mains fed from the mains of the Swindon Corporation at Draycot Foliat. The average daily consumption is approximately 18,400 gallons.

BADBURY is served with private wells and/or springs. Samples have proved the water to be unfit for domestic use. A scheme has been prepared for the laying of approximately 2,574 yards lineal of distribution mains to enable a supply of mains water to be made available to the residents. This scheme has received the approval of the Wilts County Council, and has been submitted to the Ministry of Health for approval. The scheme is one of urgency.

During the year the Council entered into a contract with the approval of the Ministry of Health for the supply of mains water to the village of HANNINGTON. Good progress has been made with the laying of the pipes and the supply should be available before the end of March, 1948.

The Swindon Corporation are the Statutory Water Undertakers for the Parishes of HAYDON WICK and STRATTON ST. MARGARET.

The Parish of LIDDINGTON is supplied from the Council's undertaking at Wanborough. The average daily consumption is approximately 4,000 gallons.

The Parish of WANBOROUGH is supplied from a spring at Callas Hill. This source is unreliable as to quantity. During the year the supply varies from approximately 12,000 gallons in the Spring to 1,000 gallons in the Autumn per 24 hours, and has to be supplemented by a supply from the Council's undertaking at Wanborough. Unfortunately the storage at Wanborough is not sufficient for one day's supply to Wanborough and Liddington. During the year, especially due to the long periods without rain, the supply was only maintained by the pumps working 24 hours each day.

When the proposed mains are laid at Badbury, the supply to Wanborough and Liddington could be augmented during these difficult periods.

The Parish of SOUTH MARSTON is served with private wells, which have proved on analysis to be of doubtful quality. The Council have had a scheme prepared for a supply of mains water to be provided. This scheme has been approved by the Wilts County Council and is with the Ministry of Health for approval. The scheme is one of urgency.

The Swindon Corporation are the water undertakers for approximately two-thirds of the Parish of Wroughton. The remaining one third is supplied from two sources. There is a heading into the chalk at Markham, the water being carried by means of a 3in. diameter main from the heading to a reservoir at The Hearn's, capacity 15,000 gallons. The quantity of water from this source is unreliable, varying from 26,000 gallons per day in the Spring to approximately 4,000 gallons in the Autumn. The second source is from a well at Gadbourne, the water being pumped to Low Mill Reservoir, capacity 25,000 gallons. Water from this Reservoir augments the supply from the Heading. The quantity of water which can be pumped in the Summer and Autumn is limited; the mains are connected to the mains of Swindon Corporation and in an emergency the supply can be augmented from this source.

In view of the increased consumption of water throughout the District by reason of extension of mains, houses previously supplied by private wells being connected to the mains, and the number of farmers taking a supply, it is hoped the Council's comprehensive schemes for water supply will not be too long delayed, otherwise the Council may experience difficulty in maintaining the quantity of water required in the District.

Parish	No. of persons taking a supply from Mains	No. of persons taking a supply from Standpipes	No. of persons supplied by Wells or other source	Total population estimated 1948
Bishopstone	240	100	310	650
Blunsdon St. Andrew	150	377	561	1088
Castle Eaton	50	160	15	225
Chiseldon	1483	40	577	2100
Hannington	—	110	144	254
Haydon Wick	400	38	—	438
Highworth	2220	256	947	3413
Inglesham	130	—	20	150
Liddington	220	80	80	380
South Marston	—	—	450	450
Stanton Fitzwarren	50	90	7	147
Stratton St. Margaret	4685	618	877	6180
Wanborough	570	150	480	1200
Wroughton	2700	282	333	3315
TOTALS	12898	2301	4801	19990

Drainage and Sewerage.

The Parishes of BISHOPSTONE, BLUNSDON ST. ANDREW, CASTLE EATON, INGLESHAM, LIDDINGTON, SOUTH MARSTON, STANTON FITZWARREN, and WANBOROUGH have no sewerage systems.

CHISELDON.— The built up area of the parish is sewered, the works comprising detritus tanks, settling tank, storm tank and treatment by land irrigation, the final effluent discharging into the River Cole.

HAYDON WICK.— The built up area of the parish is sewered, the works comprising a settling tank and treatment by land irrigation, the final effluent discharging into the River Ray. Samples taken of the effluent have proved on analysis to be very satisfactory.

HIGHWORTH.— The town is sewered, the sewage being discharged at two works, one at Eastrop, the other at Westrop. At each of the works there is a settling tank and treatment is by land irrigation. Samples taken of the effluent from the Eastrop works have proved on analysis to be very unsatisfactory. A scheme has been prepared and submitted to the Ministry of Health to discontinue using the sewage farm at Eastrop and to gravitate the sewage, reaching the latter, via a new trunk sewer to Westrop, where the intended new works will be constructed on land already owned by the Council. The existing sewers are to be retained wherever possible, but it is intended that certain sewers should be superseded, as they are too small in diameter and comprise old stone drains which are heavily silted and generally unsatisfactory for conveying foul sewage.

STRATTON ST. MARGARET.— The works comprise storm water tanks, screening and detritus chambers, sedimentation tanks, bacteria beds, dosing chambers, humus tank and sludge drying beds. The plant is working up to capacity. Samples of the effluent are taken at frequent periods which have proved on analysis to be satisfactory.

WROUGHTON.— The plant at these works is of modern construction and the effluent satisfactory.

A comprehensive report has been prepared for the whole of the Rural District, but in view of the Ministry of Health Circular 87/47, asking Rural Authorities to re-examine schemes already in course of preparation and to limit their first programme to the preparation of schemes which at the present day prices will not exceed £50 for each property likely to be connected to the sewers, the following schemes have or are being submitted to the Ministry of Health for approval. CHISELDON, HAYDON WICK, HIGHWORTH and STRATTON ST. MARGARET.

Report on samples of Water submitted for Analysis.

INDIVIDUAL SUPPLIES.

Where Taken	Parish	Result	Action Taken	Bacteriological	Chemical
West Hinton Farm	Hinton	Slight	Notified	Yes	No
Cottages		Pollution	owners		
Near P.O.	"	Satisfactory	Nil	"	"
Blunsdon House	Blunsdon	"	"	"	"
Oxleaze Farm	" Chiseldon	Polluted	Notified	"	"
17 Strouds Hill		"	owners		
Stand Tap	Seven-hampton	Satisfactory	Nil	"	"
40 Westrop	Highworth	Polluted	Notified	"	"
70 Westrop		Satisfactory	owners		
Priory Farm	S. Marston	Polluted	Nil	"	"
Vickers Armstrong		Satisfactory	Notified		
" "	"	"	owners	"	"
" "	"	"	Nil	"	"
" "	"	"	"	"	"
" "	"	"	"	"	"
48 Hyde Road	Stratton	Slight	Notified	"	"
38 Hyde Road		Pollution	owners		
34 Hyde Road	"	"	"	"	"
41 Hyde Road	"	Polluted	"	"	"
1 Ermin Street	"	"	"	"	"
9 Swindon Road	"	"	"	"	"
17 Marlborough Road	Wroughton	"	"	"	"
		Satisfactory	Nil		
Hay Lane Cottage	" Wanborough	Polluted	Notified	"	"
Marsh Farm		Satisfactory	owners		
South View Cottages	" "	Polluted	Nil	"	"
Rose Cottage		"	Notified		
The Bungalow		"	owners		
York Cottage		"	"		

Report on samples of Water submitted for Analysis.

PUBLIC SUPPLIES.

Where Taken	Parish	Result	Action Taken	Bacteriological	Chemical
Fairwater Garage	Wroughton	Satisfactory	Nil	Yes	No
16 Markham Road	"	"	"	"	"
36 High Street	"	"	"	"	"
58 High Street	"	"	"	"	"
12 Swindon Road	"	"	"	"	"
56 Perry's Lane	"	"	"	"	"
17 Perry's Lane	"	"	"	"	"
S.P. Medbourne Road	Liddington	"	"	"	"
S.P. The Green	"	"	"	"	"
Knowle House	Wanborough	"	"	"	"
The Bakery	"	"	"	"	"
Victoria Cottages	"	"	"	"	"
York Cottages	"	"	"	"	"
10 Rivers Road	Highworth	"	"	"	"
78 Rivers Road	"	"	"	"	"
High Street	"	"	"	"	"
31 High Street	"	"	"	"	"
Long Row	Castle Eaton	"	"	"	"
Red Lion	"	"	"	"	"
Stand Pipe	"	"	"	"	"
" "	"	"	"	"	"
" "	"	"	"	"	"
5 Slipper Lane	Chiseldon	"	"	"	"
" " "	"	"	"	"	"
" " "	"	"	"	"	"
" " "	"	"	"	"	"
1 Pond Street	Haydon	"	"	"	"
" " "	Wick	"	"	"	"
35 High Street	"	"	"	"	"
10 Squatters Camp	Blunsdon	"	"	"	"
7 Squatters Camp	"	"	"	"	"
27 Council Houses	"	"	"	"	"
Stratton Park Lodge	Stratton	"	"	"	"
23 Merton Avenue	"	"	"	"	"
16 Swindon Road	"	"	"	"	"

Report on Samples of Water submitted for Analysis.

PRIVATE SUPPLIES.

Where Taken	Parish	Result	Action Taken	Bacterio-logical	Chemical
23 Hodson	Chiseldon	Satisfactory	Nil	Yes	No
Burderop Park	„	Slight Pollution	„	„	„
14 Hodson	„	Satisfactory	„	„	„
23 Hodson	„	„	„	„	„
41 Badbury Wick	„	„	„	„	„
S.P. 41 Badbury Wick	„	„	„	„	„
40 Badbury Wick	„	„	„	„	„
Stand Pipe	„	Slight Pollution	„	„	„
„ „	„	„	„	„	„
Marlborough Road	„	Satisfactory	„	„	„
„ „	„	„	„	„	„
„ „	„	„	„	„	„
Liddington Wall	Liddington	„	„	„	Yes
„ „	„	Very Slight Pollution	„	„	No
Foxhill	Wanborough	Polluted	Notified owners	„	„
Ridgeway Cottage	„	Slight Pollution	„	„	„
„ „	„	„	„	„	„
„ „	„	„	„	„	„
„ „	„	Satisfactory	Nil	„	„
Ridgeway Farm	„	„	„	„	„
Standpipe P.O.	Little Hinton	„	„	„	„
„ „	„	„	„	„	„
„ „	„	„	„	„	„
The Rails	Bishopstone	„	„	„	„
31 Priors Hill	Wroughton	Polluted	Reported H.R.D.C.	„	„
„ „ „	„	„	„	„	„

Council House Tenancies.

During the year a change took place in the letting of Council Houses, a panel of Councillors were chosen to meet the Local Councillors in equal proportion, and where one representative only stood for a parish two members of the panel assist in the letting. Recommendations are then received from the Senior Sanitary Inspector and tenants chosen, it is felt this is a fairer method and is of assistance in difficult cases under consideration.

When houses are ready for tenancy, inspection of the home conditions is in all cases carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors, and reports on each case submitted resulting in the requirements of Section 85 of the Housing Act Sub-Section 2, being closely followed or complied with.

A points system and card index is in operation, but as previously reported the points system is valueless without inspection at the time of houses being ready for letting.

Squatters Camps.

The year 1947 saw a still further increase in the use of huts on Army Camps as living accommodation. The details being given in the table below. All necessary repairs to render watertight, weather and draught proof is carried out, repairs to water supplies and drainage and all other general repairs which without great expense will render the huts better for use on a short term policy. The payment of rent and charges for electricity is satisfactory, but it is hoped that the erection of new houses will be pressed on with as the life of these huts is short and will involve great expense in the next two years.

Situation of Camp	No. of Families	Spare Accommodation	Water	Electricity	Sanitary Accommodation
Stanton Fitzwarren	9	Waiting List	Main Supply	Yes	Buckets
Stratton St. Margaret	29	"	"	"	Water Closets & Buckets
Wanborough	29	"	"	No	Buckets
Burderop Camp	39	"	"	Yes	Water Closets
Blunsdon	24	"	"	No	"
Wroughton	2	"	"	Yes	"
TOTAL	132				

DETAILS OF SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN ORDER OF PARISHES.

Parish of Castle Eaton.

1. POPULATION OF PARISH.

Present Estimated	225
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2. NUMBER OF DWELLING HOUSES.

Now existing	57
--------------	-------	----

Number using Pails	49
--------------------	-------	----

" " Water Closets	8
-------------------	-------	---

" " Vaults	—
------------	-------	---

" " Cesspools	9
---------------	-------	---

" on line of existing sewers — No sewer		
---	--	--

Parish of Chiseldon.

1. POPULATION OF PARISH.

Present Estimated	2100
-------------------	-------	------

2. NUMBER OF DWELLING HOUSES.

Now existing	439
--------------	-------	-----

Number using Pails	177
--------------------	-------	-----

" " Water Closets	259
-------------------	-------	-----

" " Vaults	3
------------	-------	---

" " Cesspools	86
---------------	-------	----

" on line of existing sewers	257
------------------------------	-------	-----

Parish of Bishopstone.

1. POPULATION OF PARISH.

Present Estimated	650
-------------------	-------	-----

2. NUMBER OF DWELLING HOUSES.

Now existing	177
--------------	-------	-----

Number using Pails	140
--------------------	-------	-----

" " Water Closets	26
-------------------	-------	----

" " Vaults	11
------------	-------	----

" " Cesspools	21
---------------	-------	----

" on line of existing sewers — No sewer		
---	--	--

Parish of Blunsdon.

1. POPULATION OF PARISH.

Present Estimated	1088
-------------------	-------	------

2. NUMBER OF DWELLING HOUSES.

Now existing	292
--------------	-------	-----

Number using Pails	238
--------------------	-------	-----

" " Water Closets	26
-------------------	-------	----

" " Vaults	11
------------	-------	----

" " Cesspools	31
---------------	-------	----

" on line of existing sewers	213
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Parish of Hannington.

1. POPULATION OF PARISH.

Present Estimated	254
-------------------	-------	-------	-----

2. NUMBER OF DWELLING HOUSES.

Now existing	57
--------------	-------	-------	----

Number using Pails	41
--------------------	-------	-------	----

„ „ Water Closets	16
-------------------	-------	-------	----

„ „ Vaults	—
------------	-------	-------	---

„ „ Cesspools	6
---------------	-------	-------	---

„ on line of existing sewers — No sewer	
---	-------	-------	--

Parish of Haydon Wick.

1. POPULATION OF PARISH.

Present Estimated	438
-------------------	-------	-------	-----

2. NUMBER OF DWELLING HOUSES.

Now existing	128
--------------	-------	-------	-----

Number using Pails	44
--------------------	-------	-------	----

„ „ Water Closets	82
-------------------	-------	-------	----

„ „ Vaults	2
------------	-------	-------	---

„ „ Cesspools	4
---------------	-------	-------	---

„ on line of existing sewers	—
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Parish of Highworth.

1. POPULATION OF PARISH.

Present Estimated	3413
-------------------	-------	-------	------

2. NUMBER OF DWELLING HOUSES.

Now existing	771
--------------	-------	-------	-----

Number using Pails	119
--------------------	-------	-------	-----

„ „ Water Closets	652
-------------------	-------	-------	-----

„ „ Vaults	—
------------	-------	-------	---

„ „ Cesspools	18
---------------	-------	-------	----

„ on line of existing sewers	670
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Parish of Inglesham.

1. POPULATION OF PARISH.

Present Estimated	150
-------------------	-------	-------	-----

2. NUMBER OF DWELLING HOUSES.

Now existing	36
--------------	-------	-------	----

Number using Pails	25
--------------------	-------	-------	----

„ „ Water Closets	9
-------------------	-------	-------	---

„ „ Vaults	2
------------	-------	-------	---

„ „ Cesspools	5
---------------	-------	-------	---

„ on line of existing sewers — No sewer	
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Parish of Liddington.

1. POPULATION OF PARISH.

Present	Estimated	380
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2. NUMBER OF DWELLING HOUSES.

Now existing	100
--------------	-------	-------	-------	-----

Number using Pails	60
--------------------	-------	-------	-------	----

„	„	Water Closets	38
---	---	---------------	-------	----

„	„	Vaults	2
---	---	--------	-------	---

„	„	Cesspools	38
---	---	-----------	-------	----

„		on line of existing sewers — No sewer		
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Parish of South Marston.

1. POPULATION OF PARISH.

Present	Estimated	450
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2. NUMBER OF DWELLING HOUSES.

Now existing	113
--------------	-------	-------	-------	-----

Number using Pails	93
--------------------	-------	-------	-------	----

„	„	Water Closets	15
---	---	---------------	-------	----

„	„	Vaults	5
---	---	--------	-------	---

„	„	Cesspools	16
---	---	-----------	-------	----

„		on line of existing sewers — No sewer		
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Parish of Stanton Fitzwarren.

1. POPULATION OF PARISH.

Present	Estimated	147
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2. NUMBER OF DWELLING HOUSES.

Now existing	39
--------------	-------	-------	-------	----

Number using Pails	32
--------------------	-------	-------	-------	----

„	„	Water Closets	7
---	---	---------------	-------	---

„	„	Vaults	—
---	---	--------	-------	---

„	„	Cesspools	7
---	---	-----------	-------	---

„		on line of existing sewers — No sewer		
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Parish of Stratton.

1. POPULATION OF PARISH.

Present	Estimated	6180
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2. NUMBER OF DWELLING HOUSES.

Now existing	1916
--------------	-------	-------	-------	------

Number using Pails	21
--------------------	-------	-------	-------	----

„	„	Water Closets	1895
---	---	---------------	-------	------

„	„	Vaults	—
---	---	--------	-------	---

„	„	Cesspools	44
---	---	-----------	-------	----

„		on line of existing sewers	1858
---	--	----------------------------	-------	------

Parish of Wanborough.

1. POPULATION OF PARISH.			
	Present Estimated	.....	1200
2. NUMBER OF DWELLING HOUSES.			
	Now existing	.....	234
	Number using Pails	.....	189
	„ „ Water Closets	.....	31
	„ „ Vaults	.....	14
	„ „ Cesspools	.....	18
	„ on line of existing sewers — No sewer		

Parish of Wroughton.

1. POPULATION OF PARISH.			
	Present Estimated	.....	3315
2. NUMBER OF DWELLING HOUSES.			
	Now existing	.....	799
	Number using Pails	.....	142
	„ „ Water Closets	.....	652
	„ „ Vaults	.....	5
	„ „ Cesspools	.....	35
	„ on line of existing sewers	.....	687

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

	1947	1946	1945
Number of Registered Cowkeepers	223	238	233
„ „ Tuberculin Tested Producers	45	26	18
„ „ Accredited Producers	65	71	59
„ „ Retail Purveyors	40	40	—

Number of Tuberculin Tested Producers in the County	.....	535
„ „ Accredited Producers in the County	.....	665

The steady increase in Tuberculin Tested and Accredited licences still continue, and this reflects credit not only on the County Staff but on the Public Health Department of the Authority concerned, due to the regular routine inspections and the persistency of the requests for higher standards of milk production.

A great many cowsheds and dairies have been reconstructed or constructed during the year, and I do not recall in my experience so many producers endeavouring to improve the buildings connected with milk production and in general improving the Farms as a whole.

Routine inspections have been regular and steady throughout the year with a concentration on the poorer type of producer who is now known, due to the initial inspections carried out in 1945, it has been found unnecessary to take Court action against any producers, but in one or two cases this was very near.

Joint inspection with the County Staff and advisors have taken place where licences for T.T. or Accredited were being considered. All matters passed from the County have been dealt with, but the number of complaints was very low.

No reports on dirty milk were passed to the Department from the County Sanitary Inspector.

Slaughterhouses.

There are only three slaughterhouses licenced in this area for the use and convenience in the slaughter of cottagers pigs, and these are conveniently situated in the area.

The slaughter of all animals for human consumption are carried out at the Government centralised slaughterhouses situated in the Borough of Swindon.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

Total number of licenced slaughtermen in the area on December 31st, 1947, was 20.

Ice-Cream Premises.

Routine inspection of all premises where ice-cream is manufactured or sold was carried out during 1947.

Full details of the Ice-cream (Heat Treatment, etc.), Regulations, 1947, was sent out to all manufacturers or persons likely to make Ice-cream in the future and although it is only possible to predict it is felt that only three persons will be manufacturing in the coming summer, all others will be purchasing in bulk from recognised suppliers who are under strict supervision.

ACTION UNDER FACTORY ACT, 1937.

INSPECTIONS

Premises (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number of			Occupiers prosecuted (6)	M/c line No. (7)
		Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Number on Register (3)		
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	48	1	57	Nil	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	16	Nil	16	Nil	2
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority † (excluding out-workers' premises)	3	—	—	—	—	3
TOTAL		64	1	73	Nil	

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which proceedings were instituted (7)	M/c line No. (8)
		Found (3)	Remedied (4)	To H.M. Inspector (5)	Referred By H.M. Inspector (6)		
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	—	—	—	—	—	4
Overcrowding (S.2)	5	—	—	—	—	—	5
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	6	—	—	—	—	—	6
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	7	—	—	—	—	—	7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	8	—	—	—	—	—	8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)							
(a) insufficient	9	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	9
(b) Unsuitable or defective	10	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	10
(c) Not separate for sexes	11	Nil	Nil	—	—	—	11
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	12	—	—	—	—	—	12
TOTAL	60	2	2	—	—	—	60

OUTWORKERS (Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of work	M/c line No.	Section 110				Section 111			M/c line No.
		No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c) (3)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (4)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (5)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (6)	Notices served (7)	Prosecutions (8)		
(1)	(2)								(9)
Wearing apparel { Making, etc. Cleaning and washing	13	19	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	13
	14								14

